

President pro tempore announces the reappointment and appointment of the following individuals to the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission:

William A. Reinsch of Maryland for a term beginning January 1, 2012, and expiring December 31, 2013 (reappointment).

Carte P. Goodwin of West Virginia for a term beginning January 1, 2012 and expiring December 31, 2013, vice Patrick A. Mulloy of Virginia.

WELCOMING REVEREND DR. KATE BRAESTRUP

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to welcome Reverend Kate Braestrup to the House of Representatives.

In 1996, Kate's husband, Maine State Police Trooper James "Drew" Griffith, was tragically killed in a car accident while on duty. At the time of his death, Drew was beginning to prepare to become a Universalist Unitarian minister. Kate decided to pursue Drew's dream and began attending the Bangor Theological Seminary in 1997. She was ordained in 2004.

Since 2001, Kate has served as the chaplain for the Maine Warden Service, providing counsel for the families of loved ones lost in Maine's wilderness. An accomplished writer and minister, Kate has authored several books, including the national best seller "Here If You Need Me."

Kate is a true asset to our State. Her remarkable devotion to helping others has made her an invaluable public servant and a beloved member of the community.

It is my honor to welcome Reverend Braestrup to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE JOBS

(Ms. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, last November I hosted a jobs fair in New York's Hudson Valley. A thousand local residents came to meet with nearly 40 local employers, all seeking work, of course, all offering work.

At Christmas I was very happy to receive a card from one of our residents. She had found a job at our jobs fair. So the question I have as we approach the President's State of the Union tonight

is: How can we multiply this story by 14 million? And I think we can do it if we work together, House and Senate and President, to free American enterprise to create jobs.

Washington cannot regulate or tax us into growth, but we can work together to lift burdens and bring the Federal Government to the right size to serve, and not to suffocate, a strong and healthy economy.

I stand ready to work with our colleagues to pursue this. It is simple common sense.

STUMBLING BLOCKS TO AMERICA'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. One of the biggest stumbling blocks to America's economic recovery is that corporations can legally buy elections and then influence policies which move millions of jobs out of America which escape taxation by offshoring profits, which cash in on wars, which press military industrial spending through the roof.

While we pledge allegiance to the red, white and blue, corporations, whose only allegiance is to green, are selling out America; and they're becoming ever more powerful because of a Supreme Court decision in Citizens United, which effectively turns this government into an auction where policies may go to the highest bidder.

We must stand up for America. We must reclaim our Nation. House Joint Resolution 100 is a constitutional amendment which aims at taking all private money out of elections and returning government to the people.

I urge my colleagues to support H.J. Res. 100 so that we can break the golden shackles which are imprisoning this government right now and so that we can get rid of corporate influence once and for all. No private money in elections. Support H.J. Res. 100.

□ 1210

SENATE MUST REACH A BUDGET

(Mr. ROGERS of Alabama asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, we have now reached a thousand days since the Congress of the United States has adopted a budget. It's not the fault of the House of Representatives. We passed a budget. We passed one last year and are going to pass another one this year. The President has proposed a budget every year, and nobody here much liked it. That's okay. He at least proposed a budget. What we haven't seen is the other body at the other end of the Capitol adopt a budget at all. They don't like the House budget; they don't like the President's budget. And they don't do anything.

The fact is, if we're ever going to get our financial house in order, we have to have a budget, just like families, just like businesses. It's time for the other body to pass a budget. It's time for the President to call on the other body, which is controlled by his party, to pass a budget. I hope he'll do that tonight. Because the fact is we've got to get this country working again. It's all about jobs. And the fact that the Congress can't operate under a budget and get its fiscal house in order is hindering that job growth because it's affecting the financial markets in a negative way.

So to the other body: Pass a budget.

CONGRESS MUST CREATE JOBS

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it has been more than a year since the Republicans took control of the House of Representatives. What do the American people have to show for it? We still have not passed a single bill to create jobs. We have had a vote to end Medicare as we know it. And we have had a vote to slash college fund aid for the American young people.

Fourteen million Americans are without jobs. Families are hurting, and they need our help. Let's get to work now on extending the payroll tax cut and unemployment benefits for a full year.

Many of my constituents rely on unemployment benefits to put food on the table and keep a roof over their heads. I urge the conference committee to get started and work on it today.

Forget about the tax break for millionaires and billionaires and companies that ship jobs overseas. Let's create jobs and help the middle class, and extend the payroll tax and unemployment benefits today.

SENATE MUST PASS A BUDGET

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, it was April 29, 2009, 1,000 days ago, when the Democrat-controlled Senate last passed a budget. Back then, Solyndra was not a household name. General Motors was not yet bankrupt. Billy Mays was still selling OxyClean, and my good friend, Tebow from Gainesville—no one knew about Tebowtime.

Since then, the Federal Government has added \$4.1 trillion to the national debt. Our fiscal situation is in shambles. Entitlement spending is growing while defense spending is being cut, and the policies of a bigger and bigger government and higher taxes have not been successful.

When the Senate last passed a budget, CBO predicted that the deficit for 2011 would be \$693 billion. Today, it's \$1.3 trillion. A budget is the first and

most basic step that must be taken towards reining in historically high levels of spending and massive government growth.

It is time for the Senate to do their job.

CANCER RESEARCH

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I bring to this House and the Nation great news from Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo. Roswell Park is the first comprehensive cancer institute in the entire Nation.

Today, they are launching a clinical trial to test the use of a cancer vaccine as therapy to kill cancer cells and to prevent a relapse of the disease. The vaccine is designed to boost the body's immune system to fight and destroy cancer cells.

The vaccine has shown early promise in treating ovarian, bladder, brain, and breast cancer. The vaccine's exciting potential is a direct result of many years of cancer research. For cancer research to be effective, it has to be sustained over the longer term. It can't stop and start because you lose promising research and promising researchers.

So my message to Congress today is that the only failure in cancer research is when you quit or you're forced to quit because of a lack of funding. I urge my colleagues to fully fund cancer research in the 2012 budget.

SENATE MUST PASS A BUDGET

(Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today is day 1,000; 1,000 days since the Senate Democrats last passed a budget.

To put that in perspective, I asked my Twitter followers and my Facebook friends to tell me what they've done in the last 1,000 days. I'd like to share some of the comments.

One says, Between my home and my small business, over 60 monthly budgets have been taken care of, and they are getting harder and harder to balance.

Another said, Cut our family debt by \$60,000 in 1 year, removed two car payments, and finished my bachelor's degree while working full time being a father and getting ready for a business launch.

Another said, Finished 75 college credits, watched over 100 films, directed 16 hours of TV, and tutored over 1,000 hours.

Final one. My son made one overseas deployment, started his second one, finished his master's degree at Georgia Tech since the last budget.

Mr. Speaker, one thing is very clear: The American people are working hard. The House of Representatives, we are

working hard with 27 jobs bills and counting fast. The only question, Mr. Speaker, is when will the Senate join us.

PRIORITIES AS A CONGRESS

(Ms. FUDGE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FUDGE. Today I rise to address the importance of setting our priorities as a Congress.

It seems that some of my colleagues have lost sight of what is important. We should be focused on putting teachers, firefighters, and construction workers back to work; creating jobs by investing in infrastructure; improving America's schools; giving the middle class a tax cut; putting money in the pockets of consumers; helping small businesses thrive and grow; keeping Americans in their homes; committing to our veterans and making sure they can get jobs when they return from duty; protecting Social Security and Medicare; and making sure we are investing in this great Nation so our children have an opportunity to get ahead.

It's time we take a step back and re-evaluate our priorities. The American people deserve it.

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

(Mr. HULTGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support National School Choice Week.

School choice means empowering families to make the best decision for their students and helping them learn in an environment that best suits their child's needs and interests. We must work to ensure that every student has access to quality, public education, but some families may choose alternatives like charter schools, private schools, or home schools.

State and local governments, as well as the Federal Government, should do their part to pass legislation making it easier for students to choose the school that best suits them.

My wife and I have tried to choose the schooling that is best for our children, and I trust that our decision will help them have the best education possible.

I want all families and all students to have that same opportunity, choosing the education forum that best suits their students.

YEARLONG EXTENSION OF MIDDLE CLASS TAX CUTS

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for every single

job that is created, there are four people waiting for that job. So I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to voice my support for a yearlong extension of the payroll tax cut for middle class Americans.

Unfortunately, my Republican colleagues tried until the very last minute to raise taxes on the middle class just before the holidays. But the American people spoke up and let the Congress know that they would not stand for it.

We cannot wait for another last-minute fix. We need a yearlong extension of the payroll taxes and unemployment insurance now. We cannot afford to take more risks with the incomes of more than 160 million Americans the way the Republicans did in 2011.

Remember, we need to create jobs. There are four people for every one job there is. That means we need more jobs. That means we need to support the President's jobs bill.

□ 1220

BUDGET

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to speak about something that is nearly 3 years in the making. Some 1,000 days ago, in April of 2009, the Senate passed a budget, and that's the last time we've seen any attempt from them to set Washington's agenda and rein in government spending.

Without a budget, how can government set its priorities? Without priorities, how can American citizens have any confidence in how their tax dollars are being used? The short answer is they can't.

With a \$15 trillion debt, the United States faces its greatest fiscal challenge in history. Washington must find a way to get its finances in order while preserving programs for our seniors, protecting our services for future generations, and providing our economy with the certainty to create much needed jobs in America.

The House will soon pass a budget that does this, and I urge the President to call for action during tonight's State of the Union address.

HONORING JANUARY 28 GROUP

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, January 28 at noon, Iraq war veterans will be honored by a returning heroes parade in downtown St. Louis. This is significant not only because these war veterans deserve this welcome home, but because St. Louis is the first city in the Nation to hold such an event.

The organizers are simply called the January 28 Group, a grassroots organization which launched a social network